

What is claimed is:

1. A PCR (polymerase chain reaction) device comprising:
an inlet through which a biochemical fluid is injected;
an outlet through which the biochemical fluid is discharged;
5 a PCR channel positioned between the inlet and the outlet;
first and second micro-valves, which control opening and closing of the inlet
and the outlet; and
a sol-gel transformable material, which transforms from a sol state into a gel
state at a temperature lower than DNA denaturation temperature, annealing
10 temperature and extension temperature and higher than room temperature.
2. The PCR device of claim 1, wherein the sol-gel transformable material
is methyl cellulose.
- 15 3. The PCR device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first and second
micro-valves form the inlet and outlet of the PCR device, respectively.
4. The PCR device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first micro-valve extends
in a direction in which the biochemical fluid is injected into the inlet, and the second
20 micro-valve extends in a direction in which the biochemical fluid is discharged
through the outlet.
5. The PCR device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first and second
micro-valves are interconnected with the inlet and the outlet, respectively, the first
25 micro-valve branches off from a portion of the PCR channel near the inlet in a
different direction from a direction in which the biochemical fluid is injected, and the
second micro-valve branches off from a portion of the PCR channel near the outlet in
a different direction from a direction in which the biochemical fluid is discharged.
- 30 6. The PCR device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first and second
micro-valves intersect portions of the PCR channel near the inlet and the outlet of
the PCR device, respectively.
7. The PCR device of claim 6, wherein one end of the first micro-valve is

connected to one end of the second micro-valve.

8. The PCR device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first and second micro-valves intersect portions of PCR channels of a plurality of PCR devices near inlets and outlets of the PCR devices, respectively.

9. The PCR device of claim 8, wherein one end of the first micro-valve is connected to one end of the second micro-valve.

10. A method of regulating opening and closing of an inlet and an outlet of a PCR device, the method comprising:

connecting micro-valves, each of which contains a sol-gel transformable material that transforms from a sol state to a gel state at a temperature lower than DNA denaturation temperature, annealing temperature and extension temperature regarding PCR and higher than room temperature, to the inlet and the outlet of the PCR device; and

inducing a sol-to-gel transformation in the micro-valves using temperature variations in a thermal cycle of PCR.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the sol-gel transformable material is methyl cellulose.